



FORTY-SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
BOROUGH OF LONGTON,
WITH
Vital Statistics for the Year 1906,

BY

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With Vital Statistics for the Year 1906.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Fifth Annual Report, the Forty-Second since the Incorporation of the Borough.

Population

The population estimated to the middle of the year is 36,797, a slight increase on last year, and an increase of close on 1,000 since the census in 1901.

Census 1901	Middle of 1905	Middle of 1906
35,815	36,776	36,797

Death Rate

This is unfortunately higher than it has been since 1900, and is due mostly to infantile diarrhoea, which was so prevalent during the months of August, September, and October.

Death rate 1905	Death rate 1906
20·6	22·9

The death rates for the year in the six Pottery towns compare as follows :-

Stoke-on-Trent 13·3	Tunstall 17·3
Fenton 16·8	Burslem 18·6
Longton 22·9	Hanley 19·6

Infantile
Mortality

I regret to record that this is again very high, 234·5 per 1,000 births : on referring to the past ten years, I find this rate has not been so high since 1900, when it was 255·7. You will find the table for the decade in the vital statistics.

1905	1906
196·7	234·5

On examining the table of Infantile Mortality, and contrasting it with 1905, I find the increased mortality is due to diarrhoeal diseases :-

1905	1906
Diarrhœa, all forms 53	Diarrhœa, all forms 123
Enteritis (not Tuberculous) 11	Enteritis (not Tuberculous) 17
Gastritis & Gastro- {	Gastritis & Gastro {
Intestinal Catarrh } 4	Intestinal Catarrh } 5

I shall have more to say about this later, when I come to diarrhœa. Compared with the whole of England and Wales and the larger and smaller towns, Longton's record is a bad one.

For the whole of England and Wales, 133
„ 76 largest towns, 146
„ 142 smaller towns, 138

Also with the neighbouring Pottery towns the comparison is bad for Longton.

Tunstall 185·4	Stoke-on-Trent 136
Burslem 185	Fenton 157
Hanley 159	Longton 234·5

Birth Rate

Our birth rate has risen this last year.

1905	1906
35·6	36·4

Measles

The epidemic of measles in 1905 abated during the Christmas holidays, and although the number of cases reported to me by the School Attendance Officers each week at the beginning of 1906 showed a slight increase in one or two Schools for a week or two, I did not consider the increase sufficient to justify me in advising any further closures, and the epidemic rapidly declined from the end of January. Since then we have only had a few cases reported occasionally during the rest of the year.

Whooping
Cough

Whooping cough assumed an epidemic form towards the end of the year, and necessitated the closing of the Infant departments in the Queensbury Road and Normacot Schools on the 3rd of November for 3 weeks, at the end of which time it was thought advisable owing to the nearness of the Christmas holidays and the continuance of the epidemic not to re-open these two departments till after the Christmas holidays, and at the same time to order the closing of the Infant departments of the Florence, High St., and Uttoxeter Road Schools for the same period.

This closure has been followed by satisfactory results as the weekly notifications since the holidays have shown. Although so prevalent during the last quarter of 1906 there were only 13 deaths from whooping cough, compared with 19 in 1905. Of these 13 deaths, 7 were in children under one year, and 6 between one and five years.

Diphtheria

I am pleased to record that there were fewer cases of diphtheria and membranous croup notified during 1906 than in the previous year, and also fewer deaths with a consequent lower case rate.

1905	1906
Number of cases 64	Number of cases 57
„ deaths 8	„ deaths 2
Case rate per 100, 12·5	Case rate per 100, 3·5

Scarlet Fever

There were 150 cases of scarlet fever notified of which 87 were sent to Bucknall Isolation Hospital. I believe if we could have sent our cases into Hospital always as soon as they were notified, we would have had fewer cases to record. This delay in gaining admission was occasioned by the Hospital being so fully occupied by cases from the other towns which are joint owners with Longton of this Isolation Hospital. There were only 4 deaths out of these 150 cases, giving a case rate of 2·6. There were no deaths in the 87 cases sent to Bucknall.

Typhoid Fever

There were 31 cases of typhoid fever notified during 1906, 8 of which were removed to Bucknall, of which number 1 died the day following removal to Hospital. It is unfortunate that the distance to Hospital is so great for typhoid cases, as frequently notification of this disease cannot be sent in until the patient is too ill to be able to bear the strain of a distant removal, and consequently I have reluctantly had to

Small-pox

We have not been visited by this disease during 1906.

Diarrhœa

Diarrhœa has unfortunately proved very fatal during 1906, and especially during the months of August, September, and October, and is the chief factor in our increased death rate for the year.

The total number of deaths from diarrhœa was 144, 143 of which were under five years of age, and 123 under one year. The Local Government Board ordered a Special Report concerning this high mortality from Summer Diarrhœa, a copy of which I append.

SPECIAL REPORT
To the Local Government Board
 ON
INFANTILE DIARRHŒA

During August, September, and October, 1906.



Having been requested by you to furnish a Report on the prevalence of Infantile Diarrhœa in the Borough of Longton during the three months ending October, 1906, I herewith append a table of statistics in connection with the 120 deaths therefrom during that period.

Infantile Deaths from Epidemic Diarrhoea, August, September, and October, 1906.

Number of Deaths 120.
 Under One Year 102.
 Under Five Years 18.

Condition of Houses.	Sanitary Conveniences	Ash-pits	Mother	Mode of Feeding	Treatment of Milk	
Clean ...	96	Cesspools ... 51	Covered ...59	At home ... 57	Breast ... 18	Boiled ... 65
Clean, but out of repair ..	3	Hand-flushed Pans (good)... 20	Open ...44	Works away from home ...52	Bottle tube... 49	Not Boiled 12
Dirty ...	13	Hand-flushed Pans dirty and out of order ... 24	Bins ... 2	Dead ... 1	Bottle Hygienic 20	Nestle's ... 8
Out of repair and otherwise defective ...	5	Without Ashpit accommodation ...3	Shop ... 4	Hand ... 12	Hand ... 18	
Left ...	3	Water Closets ... 7	Cripple ... 1	Breast and Hand ... 18	Breast and Bottle ... 3	
		Duckets and Fowls ... 10	Consumptive ... 1	Consumptive ... 1		
			Lunatic ... 1	Breast and Bottle ... 3		
			Visiting ... 1			
			Workhouse ... 1			

On studying this table several significant factors stand out as tending to produce this large number of deaths, viz :-

- 1.—The number of insanitary conveniences and ash-pits.
- 2.—The number of mothers who go out to work.
- 3.—The number of artificially fed babies.

Also, though this is not shown in the table, I know positively that a great deal of carelessness exists in the way of keeping the milk, both in milk shops and in the people's own houses, also in preparing the milk and in the caring for the bottles. I believe the milk shops are responsible for a great deal of milk contamination, which will continue as long as general shops purveying any and all sorts of articles are allowed to be registered as milk shops. In very few houses do they get in their milk fresh twice a day for the children, and when one adds to this that milk is frequently left uncovered, it is not to be wondered at specially if it has come from one of the above mentioned milk shops, that the children should receive it in a contaminated form.

I reported fully last year as to the measures taken by the Sanitary Authority to combat these evils, but I may just briefly summarize as follows :—

There is a qualified sanitary inspector who is daily visiting and noting insanitary conditions both inside and outside the houses, and the condition of back passages, and serving notices *re* the same.

There is also a lady sanitary inspector who visits all the houses where recent births have taken place, and advises both verbally and by leaflet, how to care for the babies and the milk, and also makes notes of any insanitary condition and reports the same to the sanitary inspector. She makes repeat visits when she has reason to think the mothers are careless. Early in the summer before the diarrhœa set in, I advised her to distribute special leaflets on "How to prevent Diarrhœa."

This summer has been rather later than usual, and the very long spell of dry hot weather allowed our main sewers to become much fouler than is generally the case, as we have no special flushing tanks to the sewers, and the mere emptying of a water-cart load of water down a manhole occasionally could not have much effect on the contents of the sewers. If the pollution of air caused by this condition

of the sewers is added to that from the privy cesspools and ash-pits, both covered and uncovered, there is no doubt but that the vitality of a great number of children living amidst such surroundings must be lowered, and consequently they are rendered much more liable to succumb to diarrhœa if it attacks them.

The Sanitary Committee a few years ago constructed a flushing tank for one of the sewers, when the cost of the water was found to be so great the Committee ceased to use it or to construct any others.

As for the privy cesspools and ash-pits, the Authority is endeavouring to have them converted as rapidly as possibly, but is quite unable owing to the high rates to tackle the system wholesale.

I am afraid we cannot overcome the ignorance and carelessness of some of our present mothers, but I am hopeful that when the teachers in our Elementary Schools have received the training in Hygiene which has recently been started for them, and so can impart this knowledge to their pupils—the future mothers—we can look for better results in the care and management of babies and young children, and as a consequence the permanent lowering of our diarrhœa death rate.

The Mayoress has kindly consented to organize a band of lady visitors under the supervision of the Lady Sanitary Inspector, to help in visiting and advising some of the mothers on such matters as how to take care of the milk, how to prepare it, and how to keep the bottles clean. It will be interesting at the end of the year, especially if we have another hot summer, to note the result of this experiment on the infantile mortality, especially in relation to summer diarrhœa.

Phthisis

There were 62 deaths from phthisis, the highest number we have had during the past ten years. We disinfect after death, in all cases that come to our knowledge, and would willingly do so occasionally during life if we knew of the existence of such cases, but until phthisis is notifiable, we cannot obtain such information. The death rate from phthisis is 1·6 per 1,000 living.

Sewage Disposal I reported fully last year on the New Sewage Works and I have nothing fresh to add to that report this year as the Bacteria Filters are not yet in working order.

Water-Supply to Sewage Farm I am very pleased to report that this very important work has been completed during the past year, and the Sewage Farm is now supplied with fresh water by the North Staffordshire Potteries' Waterworks Co. I hope this water supply will soon be extended to the cottages belonging to the farm, and in which the farm employees live, as at present these people have to depend for their water supply on a very doubtful well.

Re-Sewering of Dresden I must again bring before your notice the re-sewering of Dresden, the necessity of which you recognised four years ago, when you passed a resolution ordering the same to be done.

Farms and Cow-Sheds Some radical action will certainly have to be taken in connection with the cow-sheds, as they continue to be over-crowded, ill lighted, and ill ventilated, and some of them are badly constructed. It is difficult to persuade some of the farmers that cows require fresh air and cleanliness as much as other animals do, but the farmers of this district are not peculiar in this respect, as it is a well known fact that all over the country with a few exceptions here and there, the cows and cow-sheds are not kept in a hygienic manner, especially in the winter months. The popular idea is that unless the cows are kept very warm they will not give a good supply of milk. Of course the danger of the over-crowding, bad lighting, and bad ventilation, combined with dirt, is that tuberculosis is much more rife amongst cows than it would be if they were properly cared for, and consequently the farmers really suffer more loss from this disease than they would, presuming the cows did not give so much milk because they were not kept quite so warm. Therefore it follows that in the interest of the farmers themselves it would pay them better if they would only look at the sanitary improvements we would like to institute from this point of view.

Milk-Shops I can only repeat in connection with milk shops what I said last year, viz. :- "It is a pity that milk should be sold in ordinary shops where all sorts of goods are exposed for sale. I should like to see such shops with glazed tiles on the walls and counters, and nothing but milk, butter, and eggs for sale there, also the shop should be cut off as much as possible from the house."

Slaughter-Houses These are being well looked after.

Meat Inspection This has been thoroughly and systematically carried out, there were 5 seizures of meat during the year.

Beef in February with conviction.

Pork in March, surrendered by the butcher so
no proceedings were taken.

Pork in May, conviction.

Beef in September, conviction.

Cow's Cheek in October, discharged.

Factories and Workshops These have been carefully inspected as the table at the end will show.

Bakehouses There are no under-ground bakehouses, and there is nothing calling for special mention in connection with bake-houses in the Borough.

On referring to the Vital Statistics you will find all the figures necessary to inform you of the diseases which have troubled the Borough during 1906. Your sanitary inspector, Mr. Carratt, has continued his excellent work during the past twelve months, and you have been pleased to recognize his worth by an increase of salary. I hope the town will be able to retain his services for many years, as although he has done excellent work since he came, there still remains such a great deal of sanitary improvement to be brought about, that unless we maintain a consecutive policy it must needs take much longer to effect these improvements. This consecutive policy cannot be maintained if the chief instrument in working it out is changed too often. I am induced to give the above warning in as much as we have changed our lady sanitary inspector three times during the past twelve months, it is significant that our infantile death rate has gone up very alarmingly in that time. However, the present lady sanitary inspector is proving herself very energetic, painstaking, and tactful, and so I hope to see a good result from her work in the coming year.

ADVANCES IN SANITATION DURING 1906.

1. Proper Water supply to the Sewage Farm.

IMPROVEMENTS URGENTLY NEEDED.

1. More rapid Abolition of Privy Cesspools and Ash-pits.
2. Improvements in Cowsheds generally.
3. Regular Medical Inspection of School Children.
4. Re-sewering of Dresden.
5. Establishment of a Mortuary.
6. Sanitary Municipal Offices

Again thanking you for your continued courtesy and support, I know if the rates were not so high you could help me more.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. DAWES.

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Longton.

Vital Statistics

for 1906.

**Area and
General
Character of
the Borough**

The Borough of Longton is about 1,934 acres in extent, and lies on the southern extremity of the Potteries. It is bounded by open country on the east, south and west, and is divided into two main watersheds drained respectively by the Anchor Brook and the Dresden Brook.

The height above the sea level varies from 676 feet at Sandford Hill, 656 feet at the Meir Church, to 474 feet at the Market Place, and 399 at Longton Pool.

In the south-east corner of the Borough, at Normacot, the Pebble Beds or conglomerates of the New Red Sandstone appear, otherwise the town stands on the south-east margin of the North Staffordshire Coalfield, and the surface consists mainly of clays.

For electoral purposes the Borough is divided into 10 Wards :- Dresden, Florence, Normacot, Meir, St. James, Sutherland, St. John's, Sandford Hill, St. Paul's, and the Market Ward.

Trades

The chief industries of the district are :- The Manufacture of China and Earthenware, and Coal Mining.

Population

When estimating the population this year and finding that it showed a considerable decrease since the census in 1901, and yet according to the Burgess Roll an increase should be recorded, reference was made to the official list published after the census, and it was found that the figures with which I was supplied, on taking office in Oct 1902, were in correct and affected the estimations of the population from that date. The original mistake was in the number of inhabited houses, which has always been supplied by the rate collectors. They returned the number of inhabited houses, at the time of the census, as 7,235, whereas the number from the official list issued by the Registrar General was 7014. This

mistake led to an under-estimation of the number of persons per house viz : 4.95 instead of 5.14, and in consequence our population each year has been estimated lower than it should have been. Last year I am afraid there was also a discrepancy as to the number of inhabited houses. However to avoid these possible errors in the future, the sanitary committee will authorise someone to take a census each year of the number of inhabited houses.

Number of Houses.

		1903	1904	1905	1906
Old Borough & East Vale	...	4,605	4,601	4,599	4,599
Florence	... ..	2,499	2,501	2,511	2,544
Dresden	... ..	679	683	683	683
Total	...	7,783	7,785	7,793	7,826

Inhabited Houses.

		1903	1904	1905	1906
Old Borough & East Vale	...	4,175	4,160	4,154	4,133
Florence	... ..	2,391	2,348	2,351	2,391
Dresden	... ..	643	622	650	635
Total	...	7,209	7,130	7,155	7,159

Void Houses.

		1903	1904	1905	1906
Old Borough & East Vale	...	430	441	445	466
Florence	... ..	108	153	160	153
Dresden	... ..	36	61	33	48
Total	...	574	655	638	667

Year		Population according to the Number of Inhabited Houses		Natural Increase
1903	...	37,054	...	532
1904	...	36,648	...	608
1905	...	36,776	...	551
1906	...	36,797	...	494

There are 19 persons per acre in the Borough.

BIRTHS.

Number of Births registered in the district during the year 1906	...	...	...	...	1324
Birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	...	35.9
Number of births in Stoke Union whose mothers were residents in the district	...	...	...	...	16
Corrected number of births	...	...	...	...	1339
Corrected birth rate	...	...	...	...	36.3
Number of Illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	99
Rate per 1,000 birth	...	...	...	...	73
Birth rate for the 76 large towns	...	...	...	...	29.9
„ „ 142 smaller towns	...	...	...	...	26.5
„ „ whole of England and Wales	...	...	...	...	27.0

BIRTH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS.

1897	...	39.3	1902	...	37.8
1898	...	39.3	1903	...	35.2
1899	...	37.8	1904	...	37.3
1900	...	38.8	1905	...	35.6
1901	...	36.4	1906	...	36.4

The highest birth rate was recorded in January 45.3, and the lowest in September 27.7.

DEATHS.

Number of deaths registered in the district in 1906	...	...	...	...	776
Death rate per 1,000 living	...	...	...	...	21.08
Number of deaths in Institutions beyond the district	...	...	...	...	69
Corrected number of deaths	...	...	...	...	845
Corrected death rate	...	...	...	...	22.9
Death rate for the 76 large towns	...	...	...	...	16.0
„ „ 142 smaller towns	...	...	...	...	14.4
„ „ whole of England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.0

Of the 845 deaths, 428 were males, and 417 females, at the following respective ages :-

314 under 1 year
 102 between 1 and 5 years
 29 " 5 " 15 "
 31 " 15 " 25 "
 249 " 25 " 65 "
 120 over 65 years.

The death rates for the last decade were :-

Year	Death Rate		
1897	26·1
1898	26·1
1899	24·1
1900	27·2
1901	22·0
1902	22·5
1903	20·8
1904	20·7
1905	20·6
1906	22·9

The maximum death rate in 1906 was reached in September 33·5, and the minimum in June 13·0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Number of deaths of children under one year			
during 1906	...	...	314
Rate per 1,000 births	...	...	234·5
Rate for the 76 largest towns	...	...	146
„ „ 142 smaller towns	...	...	138
„ „ England and Wales	...	...	133

For the last Ten Years :-

1897	the death rate of Infants per 1,000 births,			253·5
1898	„	„	„	274·7
1899	„	„	„	242·8
1900	„	„	„	255·7
1901	„	„	„	225·1
1902	„	„	„	195·7
1903	„	„	„	215·1
1904	„	„	„	194·5
1905	„	„	„	196·7
1906	„	„	„	234·5

(For Infantile Mortality Table see pages 32 & 33).

Of these 314 deaths of infants under one year, 76 died during the first month; diarrhoea which was so prevalent during the months of August, September, and October, caused no fewer than 123 deaths, convulsions 43, respiratory diseases 33, premature birth 28, wasting diseases 27, enteritis 23, infectious diseases 11, tuberculosis 8, overlying 4, and 14 from various other causes.

Average Age

The average age at death for the year is 25½, but if we exclude infants under 5 years of age, we have an average duration of life of 49 years. The average age of infants under 5 years is 8 months and 1 week.

Infectious Diseases

In compliance with the Infectious Disease (Compulsory Notification) Act, passed in 1889 and adopted in the Borough in 1891, 267 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year :-

Diphtheria and membranous croup	...	57
Enteric or typhoid fever	... ..	31
Scarlet fever	... ..	150
Erysipelas	... ..	26
Puerperal fever	... ..	2
Continued fever	... ..	1
		<hr/> 267 <hr/>

WARD LIST OF NOTIFICATIONS.

	Scarlet Fever	Diph. and Membranous Croup	Puer. Fever	Enteric	Erysipelas	Continued Fever
Dresden	... 8	3	0	0	0	0
Florence	... 28	1	0	1	4	1
Normacot	... 24	11	1	2	3	0
Meir	... 22	4	0	3	0	0
St. James'	... 8	6	0	5	3	0
Sutherland	... 21	5	0	2	4	0
St. John's	... 10	8	0	4	2	0
Sandford Hill	9	6	0	4	5	0
St. Paul's	... 14	6	1	2	5	0
Market	... 6	7	0	8	0	0
Total	... 150	57	2	31	26	1

The cost of notification was :-

			£	s.	d.
First Quarter	...	...	3	14	6
Second Quarter	...	...	4	1	0
Third Quarter	...	...	9	7	0
Fourth Quarter	...	...	14	7	6
			<hr/>		
			£31	10	0
			<hr/>		

Scarlet Fever There were 150 cases of scarlet fever with 4 deaths, giving a case rate of 2·6 87 ; cases were sent to the Infectious Disease Hospital, Bucknall.

Diphtheria 57 cases of diphtheria and membranous croup caused 2 deaths, the case rate being 3·5 per cent.

The cost of free antitoxin injections for the year was £4 19s. od. There were 28 curative doses administered, and 29 prophylactic.

22 cases of diphtheria were sent to Bucknall with no deaths.

Erysipelas There were 26 cases of erysipelas with 2 deaths.

Enteric Fever 31 cases of enteric fever were notified, 8 of these cases were sent to the Infectious Disease Hospital, Bucknall.

Year	Number of cases	Deaths	Case rate per cent
1904	73	5	6·8
1905	26	4	15·3
1906	31	5	16·1

Diarrhoea and Dysentery Diarrhoea in all its forms caused 144 deaths, 143 of which were under 5 years of age, and 123 under 1 year, particulars of the epidemic are included elsewhere in this Report.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The total number of fatal zymotic diseases during the year 1906 was 186, being 22 per cent of the total deaths and 5·05 per 1,000 of the population. The death rate per 1,000 of the population from the seven principal zymotic diseases is 4·7, the average for the previous 10 years is 3·9. A table of the fatal zymotic diseases in the last decade is appended.

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Scarlet Fever	1	2	25	14	10	5	3	1	0	4
Diphtheria & Mem- branous Croup	105	104	13	13	4	22	17	11	8	2
Enteric Fever	6	15	11	14	12	6	8	5	4	5
Erysipelas	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2
Pertussis	24	4	49	0	19	11	9	16	19	13
Diarrhoea	10	72	76	69	56	31	44	70	63	144
Measles	13	21	1	105	2	0	19	3	13	6
Influenza	0	0	0	9	5	0	4	0	1	8
Puerperal Fever	9	2	2	2	0	2	1	0	1	2
	159	220	178	227	109	78	96	106	109	186

Joint Infectious
Diseases Hospital
Bucknall

117 cases of infectious diseases were sent to the Joint Hospital at Bucknall. Of these 87 were scarlet fever, 22 diphtheria, and 8 enteric fever. There were no deaths from scarlet fever or diphtheria, but 1 from enteric fever.

Respiratory
Diseases

Diseases of the respiratory system proved fatal in 221 cases. The death rate therefrom is 6.0 per 1,000 living. Taking phthisis alone the death rate is 1.6 per 1,000 of the population. The number of deaths from respiratory diseases does not vary much from year to year, as the figures for the last ten years show.

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Congestion of the Lungs	140	169	157	159	176	192	138	138	178	154
Bronchitis										
Pneumonia										
Broncho-Pneu- monia										
Pleurisy										
Phthisis	42	35	45	52	54	56	52	54	39	62
Asthma	11	11	8	10	5	7	10	5	2	3
Laryngitis	5	0	3	1	0	3	12	13	2	2
Croup	6	1	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	0
	204	216	213	223	236	259	215	211	222	221

Inquests

There were 44 Inquests of which the verdicts were as follows :-

16 Natural causes.

3 Suicides.

1 Diarrhœa.

1 Cirrhosis of the liver.

1 Abscess.

22 Accidents sub-divided into :- 8 burns, 4 overlaying, 3 fall of coal or roofing in coal-pit, 1 blow from a stone, 1 fractured skull, 1 dislocation of spinal cord, 1 struck by a rolling tub, 1 fall from tree, 1 run-over, 1 injuries whilst shot firing.

Lady Sanitary Inspector's Report.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
J. W. DAWES, M.B., C.M.

Sir,

I have the honour of submitting to your notice, the following report of my work from May 14th to December 29th, 1906.

During that period I have visited 945 houses where births have occurred, and in the course of my enquiries I found that 569 of the infants were wholly breast fed, 167 bottle fed, and 191 partially breast and hand, breast and bottle, or hand fed, with the addition of patent foods, bread, biscuits, cornflour, sago, etc. The remaining 18 are children who had not taken food, or had left the town immediately after registration.

The mothers of 212 children were otherwise employed than in the care of the home. The greater number of these mothers were able to feed their children by natural means, but in consequence of their absence the children are put out to nurse and artificial feeding resorted to, and are carried out in the early morning to the houses where they are nursed during the day.

Coming a stranger into the town, the impressions created when visiting the houses were the squalid and dirty conditions under which the poorer people live, the improper and careless feeding of the children, and in visiting the houses where diarrhœa deaths had occurred, the storage of food in improper vessels and places in close proximity to foul and offensive cesspools, and offensive open ashpits, the decomposing contents of which caused extensive pollution of the atmosphere. In few houses visited did I find any proper provision for the keeping of food, in many instances milk being kept in scullery or wash-house uncovered, in cupboards

close to fire-place where a big fire was kept up, and with other food on kitchen tables from which swarms of flies arose when approached. Bread is often kept on the floor.

Ventilation seems to be greatly objected to, and in addition to closed windows, I find the chimney in many bedrooms is made up, the excuse being that it is draughty.

These facts in my opinion help to account for the high infantile mortality, and it is only by impressing upon mothers and nurses the importance of thorough cleanliness, and careful feeding of the children that we can hope for better results. In all cases of sickness I recommend that medical advice be obtained.

Advice personally has been given, and leaflets giving hints on the feeding and care of children, Diarrhoea, Measles, Infectious Diseases, and Consumption have been distributed.

I have paid 563 return visits where I thought the children were being improperly fed or neglected in any way, in several cases paying a weekly visit with satisfactory results. I am pleased to say that the hygienic boat shaped feeding bottle is being more widely used and appreciated.

Diarrhoea Deaths

The mothers and homes of 119 children who died from Diarrhoea have been visited, and the information obtained regarding the cleanliness and sanitary conditions of the houses, and employment of the mothers is contained in my special report to you.

House Inspection

I have visited and inspected 1194 houses and workshops and served 245 preliminary notices for insanitary conditions found, distributed as follows :-

Dirty conditions of houses	...	130
Lack of ventilation	... ..	38
Overcrowding	... ..	10
Structural defects...	... ..	40
Foul W.C.'s	... ..	18
Accumulation of rubbish...	... ..	6
Improper keeping of animals	... ..	3

Workshops

I have visited 2 factory laundries, 35 workshops, and 12 workplaces, and added 7 workshops to the register. As a result of these visits, notices were served calling attention to the following :-

Want of cleanliness	3
Overcrowding	2
Foul W.C.'s	8
Defective flushing cistern to W.C.	1

1 Workshop with insufficient W.C. accommodation was reported to the Inspector of Nuisances.

I have paid 15 visits to out-workers, and served 4 notices for uncleanly conditions.

Schools

In consequence of visits paid to the Elementary Schools, I have been supplied by the teachers with the names and addresses of children suffering from unclean and verminous heads, and general neglect. I have paid 184 visits to the homes and parents of such children, and given notices to such as were dirty, and advice as to the cleansing of the children, generally with satisfactory results.

Where there has been no improvement, I have reported the cases to the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., and have spent some considerable time with him in visiting and re-visiting the Schools, and homes of the children.

In most of the cases of neglect, the money that should have been spent in the up-keep of the home has gone in drink, the children being the chief sufferers. I have reported to the Inspector 8 cases of neglect affecting the welfare of 23 children.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

ADA HANSON.

REPORT

OF

Inspector of Nuisances.

*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
SANITARY COMMITTEE.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following report on the work of my department during the year ending Dec. 29th, 1906.

The accompanying table, containing a record of sanitary work accomplished, shows that 1149 inspections have been made, 1051 nuisances found, 887 informal notices served, and 292 notices served after report to your Committee.

Of the nuisances covered by the 887 informal notices, 852 were abated, and 230 after the issue of the 292 legal notices. In this table, where a notice covers more than one defect, a separate notice is counted for each, but the actual number of notices served was 525.

The defects covered by these notices were as follows :-

Houses with dirty, damp, or dilapidated conditions	...	84
" over-crowded	...	5
Drains defective	...	31
" stopped	...	133
" no disconnection	...	15
" no drainage	...	24
" other faults	...	44
Defects in ashpits	...	75
" privies	...	79
" closets (W.C's and hand-flushed)	...	117
Defective paving	...	165
Accumulations	...	17
Pigsties	...	2

Defects in slaughter-houses	...	...	13
„ factories, workshops, etc.	...	...	34
„ lodging-houses	...	...	9
„ dairies, etc.	...	...	1
Other outside nuisances	...	...	197

The total number of nuisances occurring in houses was 892, affecting 827 houses : 218 houses were completely examined on account of infectious disease, 122 wholly or partly respecting alleged nuisances, over-crowding, drainage, etc., and of these 340 so examined, 237 had defects of some kind or other ; 135 additional visits were made on account of infectious disease, 363 for nuisances found, and 476 for other causes.

The total number of complaints received during the year as to nuisances only, was 172. Of these, 88 were made verbally, 19 were anonymous, 34 were written complaints duly authenticated, and 31 were respecting nuisances coming to the notice of the Lady Inspector.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that no legal proceedings were taken during the year for the abatement of nuisances, though in one instance a summons was issued but the hearing was adjourned so as to give the owner an opportunity of doing the work required.

Drainage

Drain tests were made to the number of 157, either on complaint as to alleged defects or during the progress of drainage work, 66 defects being discovered as the result : 67 new drains were inspected, 15 during repair after stoppage and 25 which had been found defective ; 199 re-visits being made while the work was in progress. These figures only refer to inspections made on receipt of notice from the contractor, and do not represent by any means the number of openings to drains, a great deal of this work being done without any intimation to us.

Provision of Water closets

The rate of removal of offensive privy cesspools and the substitution of water closets, though proceeding steadily is somewhat about the same as in 1905.

The conversions were :-

8 Slop water closets in place of 8 privy cesspools.		
61 Water closets	61	„
31 Hand-flushed closets	31	„
2 New water closets	2	„
54 New water closets.		
5 New hand-flushed closets.		

The information as to the state of the closet accommodation in the Borough which was collected in 1904 and now brought up to date to the end of the year is :-

Privy Cesspools	Slop water Closets	Fresh water Automatic Closets
2,644	931	337
Cistern flush water Closets	Hand flushed Pans	
1,545	2,597	

Meat Inspection Four seizures of unsound meat were made during the year and on receiving your instructions proceedings were instituted against the owners in each case.

The first related to a carcase of beef deposited for sale in the public market in a diseased condition. The owner was fined £10 and costs, £14 4s. in all.

The second related to 12 pieces of pork exposed for sale in the public market, and from portions of which diseased glands had been removed. The owner in this case was fined £2 and costs, in all £9 15s. 6d.

The third case related to the flesh of a portion of the carcase of a cow slaughtered whilst suffering from inflammatory ailment. When seized, the meat was in process of being boned prior to its sale to poor people. The two persons in whose possession the meat was found were each fined £25 and costs, £56 5s. 0d. in all, with the alternative of three months imprisonment. After some little trouble the person who sold the meat to them was discovered and a summons was issued against him with the result that he too was fined £25 and costs, £30 6s. 6d. in all.

The fourth seizure was of a cow's cheek sold in a decomposing condition, and brought to my notice by the purchaser. The Magistrates before whom the case was heard decided to dismiss the summons.

A pig's head and side of pork were destroyed at the request of the owner, the same being of doubtful quality.

The total weight of meat destroyed during the year was 863½ lbs.

At the end of the year we had 71 Milkshops on the register, 22 Cow-keepers, and 60 Milk Purveyors residence outside the Borough, the total being 153 as compared with 133 last year.

The condition of our milkshops and cow-houses shows little improvement, the principal obstacle to be overcome in the case of the latter is, as before pointed out, the strong prejudice which exists against the introduction of sanitary measures.

In three cowsheds an attempt has been made to provide additional light and ventilation with satisfactory results, but it is difficult to ensure that the appliances will be used as intended.

During the year six samples of water from wells in the Borough were submitted to the Public Analyst and were reported on as follows.

No. 1. Water from a well supplying 6 Cottages.

"This water is free from sewage contamination . . . and appears in all respects suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

No. 2.—From a well at a Milk Farm.

"This water shows sewage pollution.....and is unfit for drinking purposes."

On receipt of this report the owner of the premises was communicated with, and the well was examined, cleaned out, and a leaky drain found in close proximity was removed. A further sample was then submitted for examination, but the water still showed sewage or animal contamination, and was not safe for drinking. A further communication to the owner resulted in arrangement being made for the provision of a supply of water from the mains to this farm and an adjoining house, whose water supply, also from a well, was of a suspicious character.

No. 3. — From a supply used for Cattle.

"This water is not very good from a domestic point of view, but is quite passable as a drinking water for cattle."

The remaining sample from a water hole supplying a milk house was pronounced upon as a good water in all respects for drinking and domestic purposes.

**Common
Lodging-houses**

We have now four Common Lodging-houses on the register and I am able to report that in consequence of pressure on the keepers, more care is taken in the management of their premises.

**Factories and
Workshops**

Some twenty reports have been received during the year from H.M. Factory Inspectors respecting defective or neglected sanitary provisions in Factories. Action has been taken where necessary and special circumstances in connection with these reports were referred to your Committee.

At the end of the year we had 119 workshops on the register, and 60 bakehouses.

Refuse Removal

The number of applications for the removal of refuse were somewhat greater than last year, the figures being :-

Longton 457	Florence 421	Dresden 50
-------------	--------------	------------

and the weights collected :-

LONGTON.—5651 tons 16 cwts, being a decrease of 114 tons, 6 cwts, on the previous year.

FLORENCE.—2985 tons, 16 cwts, being a decrease of 7 tons, 5 cwts, on the previous year.

DRESDEN.—839 tons, 2 cwts, being an increase of 23 tons on the previous year.

The total quantity of refuse destroyed at the destructor was 9,476 tons, 14 cwts. The whole of this refuse was consumed there, none being used during the year for the manufacture of manure.

Manure

Some 153 loads of manure were in stock at the beginning of the year, and this has all been sold, the quantity being a decrease of 66 loads on the sales of 1905.

The weight of mortar sold, 651 tons, 17 cwts, was an increase of 34 tons 14 cwts on the amount disposed of last year.

Nightsoil removal

It was again found necessary to investigate the conduct of this work and as the result of a report to your Committee on observations made, it was decided that a more extensive change in the staff was necessary. This was carried out and the work now proceeds more satisfactorily and is performed more conscientiously than has been the case for some considerable time.

The number of applications for the removal of nightsoil were considerably less than last year, being :-

Longton 1106. Florence 284. Dresden 188.

The quantity reported to have been collected was :-

LONGTON. —2524½ tubs, a decrease of 1326½ tubs collected in 1905.

FLORENCE. —827¼ tubs, a decrease of 362½ tubs collected in 1905.

DRESDEN. —216 tubs, a decrease of 179 tubs collected in 1905.

This heavy decrease is to a great extent due to the fact that during the greater part of the year it has been found possible to carry on the work efficiently with a tub less per night, and therefore a less number of men, and perhaps also, that since the change before mentioned was made, the returns of the work done are more reliable than formerly.

Disposal of Nightsoil

Of the 3,568 tubs collected, 1,102 were tipped into the sewers, 2,431 were disposed of to farmers, and the balance, 35 tubs, were conveyed to the destructor, the contents being solid materials removed while cleansing cesspools and for which there was no other means of disposal.

Disinfection

There was still a demand for the loan of lime brushes, though the number required, 610, was 98 less than last year. In consequence of the frequent delay in the return of brushes by borrowers and the large number it was thus necessary to stock, I suggested to you in July that a time limit should be fixed for the loan of the brushes, and that a small deposit be

required which would be returned on receiving back the brush within that time. It was agreed that the time allowed should be three days, and a deposit of two pence be required. There has been no difficulty in the working of this arrangement, and it has resulted in the prompt return of the brushes. A sum of 7/8 has already been forfeited by borrowers who exceeded the time allowance.

The Steam Disinfector was in use on 305 occasions during the year, 6,427 articles being passed through. In consequence of the increased number of infectious disease cases occurring in the Borough, it was found necessary on several occasions to temporarily increase the staff engaged in the work of disinfection. Some 309 rooms of houses and 29 rooms of schools were disinfected by spraying with formalin solution.

Prosecution for
Exposure of
Infected
Goods

Upon a report to you that certain goods had been transmitted from infected premises without disinfection, and that a case of scarlet fever had been traced to this neglect, you issued instructions for legal proceedings to be taken against the offender as a warning to others. The Magistrates at the hearing of the case decided to dismiss the summons on payment of costs (11/6).

In concluding my report I feel that though the amount of work done is small compared with that which is still to be done, the sanitary condition of the Borough is slowly though surely improving, and I take this opportunity of thanking you, Gentlemen, for the strong support you have given to me at all times in dealing with matters to which I have, I am afraid sometimes too frequently, been obliged to bring to your notice.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

E. CARRATT.

TABLE 1. BOROUGH OF LONGTON.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT during 1906 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.				Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.
		Number	Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages.						
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	Rate					
1896	35,077	1,361	37.9	320	235	819	23.3					
1897	35,227	1,408	39.3	357	253	920	26.1					
1898	35,377	1,412	39.3	388	274	926	26.1					
1899	35,527	1,355	37.8	333	242.8	859	24.1					
1900	35,677	1,392	38.8	356	255.7	971	27.2					
1901	35,815	1,306	36.4	294	225.1	751	20.9				44	790
1902	37,516	1,420	37.8	278	195.7	757	20.1				60	815
1903	37,054	1,306	35.2	281	215.1	721	19.4				60	774
1904	36,648	1,367	37.3	259	194.5	686	18.7				76	759
1905	36,776	1,311	35.6	258	196.7	677	18.4				85	760
Average for Years 1896-1905.	36,069	1,363	37.7	312	228.7	808	22.4	11	3	70		777
1906.	36,797	1,339	36.4	311	234.5	776	21.08	26	0	69		845
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water &c.)		2000		Total population at all ages		...		35,815		at census 1901.		
				Number of inhabited houses		...		7,014				
				Average number of persons per house		5.14						
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.												
Longton Cottage Hospital.												
Stoke Union Workhouse.												
Joint Infections Disease Hospital, Bucknall.												

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

CAUSE OF DEATH.	ALL CERTIFIED.																	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.		
All Causes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Diphtheria, Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	7
Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	1	2	3	15	17	16	13	10	11	7	10	8	7	6	123
Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)...	...	...	...	1	1	2	2	3	2	...	4	...	...	1	2	...	17
Gastritis, Gastro intestinal } Catarrh	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
Premature Birth	21	4	1	2	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Congenital Defects...	3	3	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	8
Injury at Birth	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	5	1	3	1	10	3	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	17

TABLE IV.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LONGTON.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths at Subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District						Deaths in Public Institutions
	All Ages	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	6	2	3	1	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever ...	4	...	2	2	...	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	13	7	6	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...
Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus Enteric Other continued	5	...	1	...	...	4	1
	8	...	1	...	...	4	3
Epidemic Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	144	123	20	...	...	...	1
Enteritis ...	30	22	6	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Erysipelas ...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...

Other Septic Diseases ...	...	...	4	1	1	2	3			
Phthisis ...	...	...	62	3	4	5	11	38	1	7
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	15	5	5	2	1	2		2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	32					23	9	6
Bronchitis ...	...	...	100	19	15	2	2	36	26	6
Pneumonia...	...	...	33	6	9	1	3	11	3	2
Pleurisy ...	...	...						
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	26	8	12		1	4	1	
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	13					11	2	35
Venereal Diseases	...	...	4	3				1		1
Premature Birth	...	...	28	28						1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	...	...	2					2		1
Heart Disease	...	...	61	1	1	5	2	37	15	15
Accidents...	...	...	26	4	3	4	3	9	3	16
Suicides ...	...	...	3				1	2		
All other causes	...	...	220	81	13	6	4	61	55	28
All causes	...	...	845	314	102	29	31	249	120	95

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces & Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	37		
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	104		
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	12		
Total	153		

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	5	5		
Overcrowding ...	3	3		
Other Nuisances ...	3	2		
Sanitary Accommodation } insufficient...	7	5		
} unsuitable or defective...	27	26		
} not separate for sexes ...				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses ...	3	6		
Other Offences (excluding Offences relating to Outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	1	1		
Total	49	43		

N.B.—These Tables include the work of a Lady Sanitary Inspector.

3.—Home Work.

NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers twice in the Year.		Number of Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Councils.	Number of Inspections of Outworkers premises.	Outwork in unwholesome premises	
	Lists	Outworkers			Instances	Notices served.
Making of Wearing Apparel	12	31	4	34	25	25

4.—Registered Workshops.

Workshops on Register at the end of the year.				Number
Workshops	...	...	...	119
Bakehouses	...	...	...	60
Total number of Workshops on Register	...	...	...	179

37

5.—Other Matters.

CLASS.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act	8
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors { Notified by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	20
not under the Factory and Workshop Act	0
Other	1

Table VI.—Borough of Longton.

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1906.

				Number of		Abatement Notices.		Nuisances Abated after Notice by	
				Inspections and Observations made.	Defects found	Informal by Inspector.	Formal by Authority.	Inspector.	Authority.
Dwelling Houses and Schools	Foul Conditions ...	...	...	11	20	20	3	20	3
	Structural Defects			40	64	48	16	49	18
	Overcrowding ...	...	...	22	5	5		5	
Lodging-houses	...	...	...	37	9	8	1	11	
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	21	1	1	2	1	1
Cowsheds	...	...	...	35		1		19	
Factories, Bakehouses } Workshops }		..	..	104	34	34	2	36	2
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	61	13	10		10	
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	110	154	11	175	7	126
Deposits of Refuse & Manure				26	17	17		17	
Water Closets	...	...	...	121	117	117	24	125	22
House Drainage	Defective Traps ...	...	...	3	5	5		5	
	No Disconnection...	...	...	10	15	15	13	12	13
	Other Faults	...	...	250	227	227	7	209	6
Water Supply	...	...	...	8	2	2			
Pigsties	...	...	...	6	2				
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	6	4	4	1	1	1
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	8					
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	270	362	362	48	325	38
TOTALS				1149	1051	887	292	852	230

Table VI. Continued.

Unwholesome food :—				Nos.
Number of Seizures ...	...	...	...	4
Condemned by Magistrate ...	...	...	...	4
Prosecutions for exposing for sale		...	...	4
Convictions	„	„	...	4
Samples of Water taken for Analysis		...	...	6
„	„	condemned as unfit for use	...	3
<hr/>				
Precautions against Infectious Disease.				
Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed (Articles) ...				6427
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease (Rooms)			...	309
Schools	„	„	„ (Rooms)	29
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things			...	1
Convictions	„	„	„	1

(Signed), E. CARRATT,

Inspector of Nuisances.

February 8th, 1907.

TABLE III.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LONGTON.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in Whole District						
	At all ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 5 Years	5 to 15 Years	15 to 25 Years	25 to 65 Years	65 and Upwards
Diphtheria ...	56	3	15	20	9	8	1
Membranous Croup ...	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Erysipelas ...	26	2	1	4	4	12	3
Scarlet Fever ...	150	0	45	86	15	4	0
Enteric Fever ...	31	0	3	7	3	18	0
Continued Fever ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
	267	5	65	118	33	42	4

Isolation Hospital :- Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bucknall.